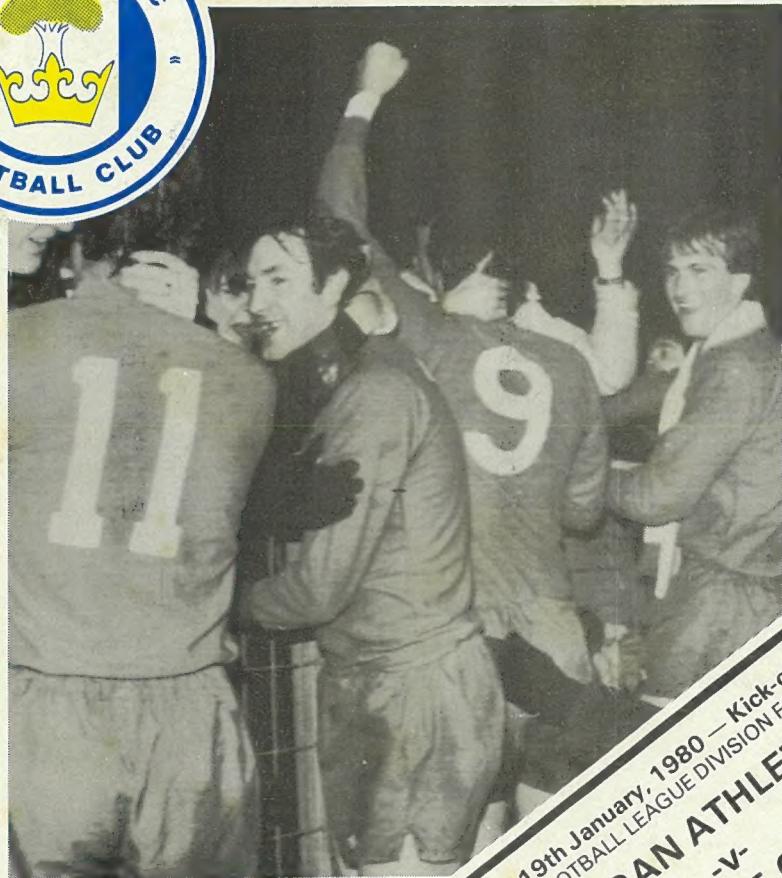


WIGAN ATHLETIC



Saturday, 19th January, 1980 — Kick-off 3.00 p.m.
FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

WIGAN ATHLETIC
-v-

A.F.C.
BOURNEMOUTH

Official Programme

20p

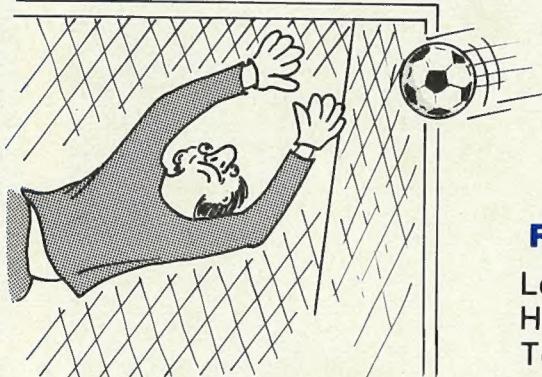
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TEAM MANAGER:
Mr. I.M. McNeill.

COMMERCIAL MANAGER:
Mr. J.T. Sudworth.

HON. MEDICAL OFFICERS:
Dr. G. Menon, Dr. S.K. Ahuja,
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Match Ball Donors

The Wigan Athletic Football Club wishes to thank all those who have donated match balls. Any individual or organisation wishing to join the scheme is asked to contact the Commercial Manager, Springfield Park, Wigan. (Telephone: Wigan 43067)

Front page picture — Congratulations!!
Fans and players join together to celebrate
after the epic battle of Stamford Bridge.
(Photo by courtesy of the Wigan Observer)

Personally Speaking

by Ian McNeill



Good Afternoon All
A very warm welcome to Alec Stock and his Bournemouth side. So far this season they have travelled very well and indeed lost only three out of thirteen games, so it will not be easy for us. My main concern once again is to get back to

league sanity after the euphoria of the Cup.

Southern Safari

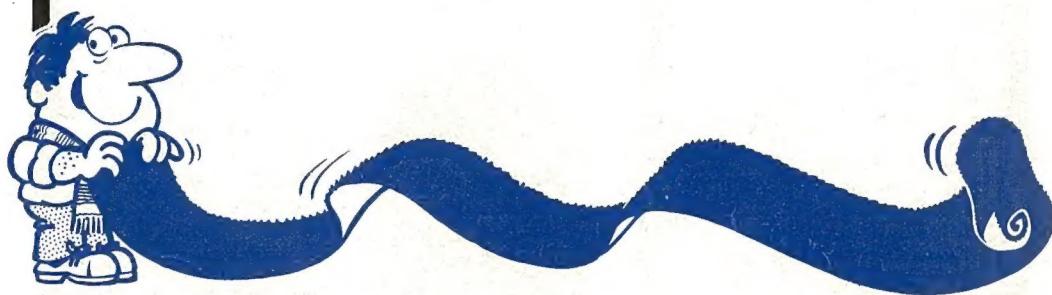
When we left last Friday afternoon to travel to Portsmouth, I stated that the two games ahead were possibly the two most important games in the club's history. Firstly the game at Portsmouth, I felt if we could get a result then the battle would really be on for promotion and secondly by getting the right result at Chelsea, we would create history and set the scene for another wonderful day in the history of Wigan Athletic. Well I say now that the two tasks were successfully completed, and I am sure our wonderful supporters will proceed to give us the boost we need in our promotion race and also make sure that the East Lancs Road is a solid mass of fans on the 26th January. It should be quite a day, both for our supporters and also our team, who I am sure will really relish the thought of the game and subsequent memories of the match. We will do our best and that is about all I can promise — I trust it will be good enough.

Enjoy today's game.

I. M. McNeill.

Ian McNeill

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IT IS a pleasure to have as visitors today the directors, staff, players and supporters of A.F.C. Bournemouth. Always attractive opposition, this year's "Cherries" are proving very difficult to beat whether at Dean Court or on their long distance expeditions up and down the country. Indeed, the competitive nature of their play is illustrated by the fact that in nineteen of their twenty-seven league games played the "Cherries" have been unbeaten and have only conceded thirty-one goals. There is little doubt that, with just a little more positive finishing, the Bournemouth club would be pushing for a promotion spot, instead of occupying a satisfactory but frustrating mid-table position.

Visiting Dean Court in the early part of the season was a most enjoyable experience, with a fine day providing a beautiful setting for all the hustle and bustle, colour and atmosphere associated with the euphoria generated by a new season. A neat well-appointed ground manned by lively workers and patronised by friendly townsfolk, made the holiday resort an attractive proposition for the many Wigan people who journeyed down for the day, stayed the weekend, and even, so we are told, enjoyed bathing at 3.00 a.m. on the Sunday morning!! Our own waterfront, and the bleakness of a Lancashire winter's day, must be just about as attractive as Siberia to our Southern guests, but we hope the warmth and sincerity of a Lancashire welcome will generate a glow of friendly rivalry and comradeship.

In Manager Alec Stock, A.F.C. Bournemouth have a priceless gem not only of much worth but also deep in experience and knowledge of the game which he has served with such distinction. One cannot imagine such a man settling for second best and it can only be a matter of time before Dean Court witnesses a higher grade of football.

Without wishing to offend the other Bournemouth players, it is a privilege also to welcome that much-travelled striker, Ted MacDougall to Springfield Park. In an era when goal-scoring seems to be acquiring a degree of difficulty not previously experienced, the maestro still manages to knock them in, and, with over two hundred and fifty league goals to his credit, Ted is the leading goalscorer of all the players currently performing in League Football.

For those with a statistical interest, the record attendance at Dean Court was for a 6th Round F.A. Cup game -v- Manchester United on the 2nd March, 1957, when 28,799 attended. Record receipts were registered at £9,525 when Portsmouth visited Bournemouth for a Division Four game on 29th September, 1978. The playing area measures 117 yards x 75 yards. Best performance in the F.A. Cup was in 1956-1957 when the club reached the Sixth Round, and, in the Football League Cup, A.F.C. Bournemouth reached the Fourth Round in 1962 and 1964.

Last year Wigan gained a narrow 1-0 win at Springfield Park, thanks to a Peter Houghton goal, but lost 1-2 at Bournemouth with Purdie netting for Wigan and Massey and Johnson replying for the "Cherries". At Dean Court in September, this season, "super-sub" Derek Brownbill snatched victory from the home side with two goals in the later stages. No doubt today's game will be an equally competitive and closely fought encounter.

Welcome then to our colleagues and friends from the lovely coastal town of Bournemouth. We trust you will enjoy your visit to Wigan, witness a sporting and exciting game of football and enjoy our Lancashire hospitality, before returning safely to your homes tonight. All best wishes to one of the Fourth Division's leading clubs.

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THREE MATCH THRILLER

F.A. Cup-tie, 2nd Round play,
Northwich at home, Latics away.
December 15th the date
We haven't long to wait.

At last the 'Vics' will have a good gate.
Latics fans are on the way
Streaming down the motorway.

The F.A. Cup is a game of chance
Remember winter and at the forecast
glance.

The game is on, the game is off!
December 15th? No chance!

For rain and rain and rain again
Too much, too much for any drain,
Springfield Park is very damp
And the Drill Field? Just a swamp.

Postpone the match for better weather
Perhaps the sun will shine at last.
Will they play it? Will they ever?
Not until the floods have passed.

Time is passing, still no sign
Of this match starting until it's fine.
At last it's fine, the rain has gone,
On Christmas Eve the match is on;
Wives are harassed, Wigan is dead
Everyone to Northwich fled.
Now is the time, the supreme test,
We'll prove which team is best.

December 24th in the Cheshire sun
At last the perfect day,
The sun is bright, the fans packed tight
"We'll teach the 'Vics'" they say.
The teams come out, the fans all shout
Excited by the play.

Latics clearly the superior outfit,
With football skills beyond compare
Netting three in a scoring spree
Well Northwich, what about it?

Half a minute, half a mo!
They know how to stem the flow.
Look beyond the River Weaver
Up towards the church close by,
What is that descending slowly
Like a blanket from the sky?

Yes, it is a mystic menace
Here in time to spoil the day,
This will bring some Cheshire solace,
Fog, thick fog to stop the play
Cheers resound around the ground,
Saved to fight another day!

Two weeks later back once more
Today 'the lads' will leave no doubt
At Northwich again to settle the score
We all expect a rout.
Half time's here, it's in the bag
Two-nothing to the blue and white
Latics shine while Northwich lag,
Surely now we've won the fight!

But this, alas, was not the case,
As Tommy Gore put hands to face
To protect himself from a fierce shot
And that's how the ball got on the spot.
With such a gift Northwich didn't falter
And soon the game began to alter,
A new team emerged in green and
white
And began a gutsy fight.

Before we could say, "It's not over
yet!"
The ball was once more in the net.
Latics are once more off the mark
But this time it's a different story,
This game is at Springfield Park
And we will take the glory.
Mr. McNeill has made it clear
That loyal fans need have no fear
"We'll finish the job this time in style
If you are patient for a little while."
But the Cheshire side have sniffed
success
And their fans make a tremendous
noise,
The 'Vics' sense victory, how they
press!
As Latics slowly lose their poise.
Eight minutes left and on comes
Brownbill
Wigan's super sub!
Will he halt the slide downhill?
Can he lift the club?
Of course he will, he's full of fight
The fans are sure he'll save the night.
He can, he does in the ninetieth minute,
A lovely cross from Wright
Derek's there, in with his head
Oh what a lovely sight!
Brave Victoria at last are dead,
We scream in sheer delight.
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Lancashire League Scene

by Fred Eyre

A MOST pleasing feature of recent Reserve games has been the return of Steve Yates to the team.

Steve, a local boy, came to the Club at the beginning of last season after being voted the Town's most promising Young Player and played 29 games last term.

He was a bit raw when he came and it has not been an easy job smoothing out some of his rough edges, in fact we have not completely managed it yet, but he finished the season a much improved player and couldn't wait to get into action this season.

He received a setback, however, when he broke a leg in one of our pre-season friendly games, so his season didn't really start until recently at Manchester United, where he was

outstanding in a 2-0 victory. Such is Steve's physical condition that he was fit enough to play as soon as the doctor gave him the O.K., and so didn't have to waste extra weeks getting fit. He trains as enthusiastically as he plays and is without doubt one of the fittest players I have ever worked with. Being super fit, however, doesn't automatically make a player (although it certainly helps) and Steve is aware of his deficiencies, mainly lack of vision (which experience will bring), and a tendency to rush his distribution.

He is tackling these problems the way he tackles opponents, and if success is measured by determination and will to win Steve Yates will finish at the top.

MATCH BALL DONATION

We are pleased to acknowledge the donation of today's match ball by Aluman Ltd., 62 Smock Lane, Garswood, Nr. Wigan, Lancs. Telephone: Ashton-in-Makerfield 77788. Aluman Ltd. offer Welding supplies to industry, free welding advisory service, electrodes, machines, accessories, etc. We thank the firm for the interest it has shown in our club, and in particular Mr. John Fillingham, their Technical Manager, a keen supporter of our club.

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Player Profile



Photograph by courtesy of the Wigan Observer

COLIN METHVEN (Defender)

COLIN METHVEN received his early education at Methil Primary School and at Kirkland High School, where he quickly showed promise as a centre half and captained school teams at various age levels. Although good at most ball games, soccer was Colin's first love and his ability to lead positively was soon recognised.

As a teenager, the strong youngster played for his school in the morning and Leven Royals in the afternoon, playing with poise and assurance at both under-16 and under-18 levels. On leaving Kirkland, Colin continued his education at Glenrothes Technical College studying for a pre-apprenticeship engineering course, before joining the National Coal Board at the age of sixteen as an Apprentice Electrical Engineer. Excellent qualifications were obtained in City and Guild's Courses in the Electrical Installation "A" Course and Electrical Craft and Technical Courses. While with the NCB, Colin represented Scottish Miners against Nottingham Miners and the Sassenachs were overwhelmed — a final score of seven-nil in the Scottish side's favour. After being watched by East Fife for a while, Methven eventually had a trial and was signed up by the Bayview Club. He was then loaned to Leven Juniors for two seasons of non-league football to help him acquire experience. Colin eventually made his debut against Stranraer at the end of the 1974-1975 season, and then remained an ever-present in all

league and cup games until joining Wigan Athletic on 29th September, 1979.

Also acquired a reputation as a goal-scorer with East Fife and in 1978-1979 finished as second highest scorer with eleven goals. Also represented Scotland in a four nation competition at semi-professional level in 1978-1979.

Throughout his career, the quiet Scotsman has occupied a position at the heart of the defence, and his arrival at Wigan added power and determination to an already formidable combination. Methven's strong-tackling and aggressive heading ability have been features of his play. Colin has no regrets at moving South of the Border, and he and his wife Vera eagerly awaiting the move into their new home in the Garswood area and the arrival of their first child very shortly. Never happier than when he is messing about with his car and performing minor maintenance tasks, the mechanically-minded man from Fife is a real home-bird, away from the football club.

As captain of the Wigan Athletic side, Colin Methven leads by example and is already a firm favourite with the critical Springfield Park crowd who idolise a player who can not only move forward positively in attack but tackle with the ferocity of a tiger when the occasion demands.

More power to his game!!

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MAGIC M

Photograph by courtesy of the Wigan Observer



ABOVE:
The Chelsea game is over.
Time to celebrate in the Wigan
dressing room.

TOP RIGHT:
Tommy Gore produces
another special to leave
Northwich Victoria keeper
David Ryan helpless.

BOTTOM RIGHT:
Golden Goal. Peter Borota
looks on helplessly as Tomm
Gore's perfect chipshot heads
for the net.

Springfield Spotlight

MOMENTS



Photograph by courtesy of the Evening Post & Chronicle



Photograph by courtesy of the Wigan Observer

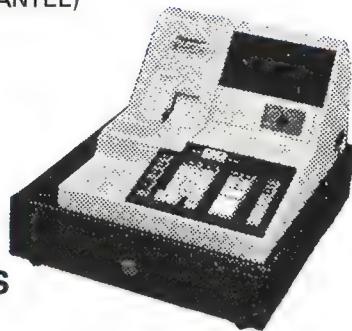
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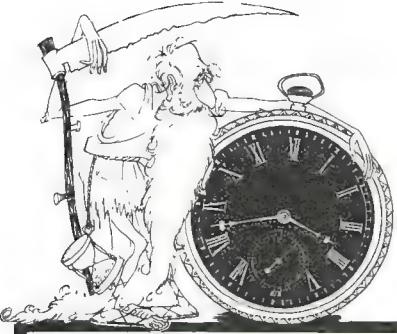
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Down Memory Lane

by Harold Ashurst

ONE OF the most important reasons behind Wigan Athletic's current fourteen game unbeaten run is their remarkable consistency and, as any manager will tell you, without consistency, you will not go very far.

That was the case with Latics a few years ago. After winning the Northern Premier League title with a record number of points in season 1974-1975 they tried all they knew to repeat the feat the following season but a remarkable lack of consistency let them down.

They would play brilliantly one match and erratically the next, and, after one such match, played in January 1976, manager Brian Tiler labelled his side "diabolical".

Wigan were beaten at home by Mossley 2-3 and, despite trailing by 1-2 for most of the match a Tommy Gore penalty in INJURY TIME gave them an equaliser, only for Mossley to kick off, go straight to the other end, and score

again. Performances were as brittle as that. Wigan players John King and John Rogers were both booked, thus putting them out of an important cup tie at home to Grantham the following week.

Against Mossley Wigan Athletic took the lead via Ray Wilkinson only to lose control of the game completely and allow Mossley to come back and score through Williams and Tinsley. Tinsley's goal was scored after Wigan goalkeeper Eales had brilliantly saved a penalty.

Latics never really achieved any sort of consistency that season, but were still good enough to finish third in the final league placings.

The Wigan team that played Mossley was: Eales, Gore, Hinnigan, Wright, Molyneux, Gillibrand, Garrett, Wilkinson, Rogers, King, Coyne.

Mossley were represented by: Fitton, Brown, Bell, Tinsley, Ellam, Jackson, Brodie, Williams, Worth, Skeete, Sleight. The attendance was 1,357.

LATICS AWAY

F.A. Challenge Cup — 4th Round, Everton -v- Wigan Athletic.
Join East Lancashire Road (A580) on the outskirts of Wigan, and drive forward into Liverpool and Walton Hall Avenue for Everton F.C. Ample car park space available at the corner of Priory Road and Utting Avenue.

Facts and Figures

Home fixtures in capitals.
Wigan scores first.

Player scoring in bold.
† Player substituted.

² Figure indicates no. of goals scored by player.
* In result column indicates opponents own goal.

DATE	Fixture	F	A	ATT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Aug 11	Stockport FLC1	1	2	6,004	R Ward	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	Brownbill	Purdie	Urquhart
Aug 15	STOCKPORT FLC1	0	0	7,591	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	Brownbill	Purdie	Moore
Aug 18	Darlington	2	2	2,063	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan*	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	Moore	Purdie*	Davids
Aug 22	HUDDERSFIELD	1	2	6,927	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	Moore*	Purdie	Brownbill
Aug 25	Stockport County	2	1	3,837	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore*	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	Moore	Purdie	N Ward
Sep 1	PORTRSMOUTH	1	2	8,198	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	Moore*	Purdie	Urquhart
Sep 8	Bournemouth	2	1	4,380	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Hart	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	Moore	Purdie	Brownbill
Sep 15	YORK CITY	2	5	5,950	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan*	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Purdie	Urquhart*
Sep 19	HARTELEPOOL	2	1	4,877	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Purdie	Urquhart*
Sep 22	Hereford United	1	2	3,891	Shyne	Gore	Hinnigan	Purdie	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright*	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Urquhart
Sep 29	BRADFORD CITY	4	1	8,009	Shyne	Gore*	Hinnigan*	Urquhart	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore*	Houghton*	Crompton
Oct 6	TORQUAY UNITED	0	3	6,541	Shyne	Gore	Hinnigan	Urquhart	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Crompton
Oct 9	Huddersfield Town	0	4	7,871	Brown	Gore	Hinnigan	Urquhart	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Methven
Oct 13	Doncaster Rovers	1	3	4,168	Brown	Macivor*	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	Moore	Purdie	Urquhart
Oct 20	LINCOLN CITY	2	1	5,454	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	Moore	Purdie	Urquhart
Oct 24	ROCHDALE	1	1	5,036	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton*	A Quinn
Oct 27	Newport County	2	3	4,910	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven*	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Buckley	A Quinn*	Urquhart	Buckley
Nov 3	DARLINGTON	4	1	5,001	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan*	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	A Quinn*	Urquhart	Buckley
Nov 6	Rochdale	2	0	2,936	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	A Quinn*	Urquhart	Brownbill
Nov 17	SCUNTHORPE	4	1	4,618	Brown	Fretwell*	Hinnigan*	Gore*	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	A Quinn*	Urquhart*	Moore
Nov 24	Blackpool F.A.C.1	1	1	11,277	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven*	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	A Quinn	Urquhart	Moore
Nov 28	BLACKPOOL FAC 1	2	0	14,585	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore*	Methven	Davids	Corrigan*	Wright	Houghton*	A Quinn	Urquhart	Moore
Dec 1	NORTHAMPTON	0	0	6,158	Brown	*Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	A Quinn	Urquhart	Moore
Dec 8	Walsall	1	1	5,261	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	A Quinn*	Urquhart	Moore
Dec 21	CREWE	2	0	4,316	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan*	Gore*	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	A Quinn*	Urquhart	Buckley
Dec 26	Peterborough	2	1	3,312	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore*	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton*	A Quinn*	Urquhart	Crompton
Dec 29	STOCKPORT	3	1	6,847	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright*	Moore	Quinn*	Urquhart	Brownbill
Jan 5	Northwich V FAC2	2	2	5,249	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan*	Gore*	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Quinn	Urquhart	Brownbill
Jan 7	NORTHWICH V FAC2R	1	0	11,298	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Quinn	Urquhart	Brownbill*
Jan 12	Portsmouth	1	1	15,625	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Quinn	Urquhart	Houghton*
Jan 14	Chelsea FAC3	1	0	22,300	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore*	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Brownbill	Urquhart	Quinn
Jan 19	BOURNEMOUTH															
Jan 26	Everton FAC4															
Feb 2	York City															
Feb 9	HEREFORD UNITED															
Feb 16	Bradford City															
Feb 23	DONCASTER															
Feb 29	Lincoln City															
Mar 8	NEWPORT COUNTY															
Mar 14	Torquay United															
Mar 22	TRANMERE															
Mar 29	Scunthorpe United															
Apr 4	Crewe Alexandra															
Apr 5	PETERBOROUGH															
Apr 7	Port Vale															
Apr 12	HALIFAX TOWN															
Apr 19	Northampton Town															
Apr 26	WALSALL															
May 3	Aldershot															

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION 4
LEADING POSITIONS AS AT 16th JANUARY, 1980.

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Fourth Division Focus

by Chris Gill



WIGAN ATHLETIC and Halifax Town are the pride of the Fourth Division at the moment after their splendid cup successes over Chelsea and Manchester City. Both go into the next round with a view to being the two lower division sides who go furthest in the F.A. Cup. With that tag goes a prestige match between the two sides involved for a trophy put up by Debenhams, and some useful prize money.

Other contenders at the moment include non-league Harlow Town and Fourth Division Rochdale, who have twice had their replay with Bury called off because of the weather.

On the league front, Crewe Alexandra manager, Tony Waddington struggles on, at last with a little reward. He has recently snapped up the services of former Stoke City player Terry Conroy. Conroy scored 49 league goals for Stoke City and will soon want to take his tally to 50 with his new club. More good news for Crewe is that on loan

goalkeeper Bruce Grobellar will be staying until the end of the season.

Stockport County boss Jimmy McGuigan is reshaping his vastly improved side and likely casualties are Mike Czuczman and Chris Galvin who both look set for a move.

Huddersfield Town have added fire power to their attack in the form of former Burnley player Steve Kindon who went to Leeds Road in a £50,000 move. Leaving Huddersfield is former Everton and Watford goalkeeper Andy Rankin. After a month's trial he has decided to sign for non-league Buxton.

Struggling York City were boosted by the news that defender Jimmy Walsh has made a successful comeback in a reserve game at Grimsby. The player had been suffering from a mystery ankle complaint.

Meanwhile, Hartlepool United are ready to part with about half a dozen players, including the £60,000 rated striker Bob Newton, who has been interesting Aldershot.

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CUP FEVER attacks different people in different ways. Some become super sleuths, some display hidden talents for singing and dancing, some throw off the years and become young men again, while all get swept along by a tide of hysteria which has to be experienced to be fully appreciated. I'll tell you a story or two... First to feel the brunt of Wigan's invasion of the Capital last Monday was no less a person than Sir Alec Guinness, the famous actor. Blissfully unaware of the fate which was in store for him, Sir Alec was detected sitting in a railway compartment, approached cautiously, draped in blue and white, and captured for posterity by the photographer's lens. Tinker, Tailor, Soldier... Wigan Athletic supporter?

If our boys out on the pitch at Stamford Bridge performed magnificently, the performance of directors Alan Muir, Albert Eckersley and Brian Connelly at dominoes on the outward and inward journeys by train must have run the players close.

Shouting and competing like schoolboys in a house match, they managed to break even after four hours of demanding competition. Not to be outdone, Margaret Muir (who else), Olive Farrimond, Margaret Welsby and Winnie Cowap put on a cabaret performance of unsurpassed improvisation and harmonisation. Their repertoire had to be heard to be fully appreciated, and their final chorus of "We shall not be moved" emptied the adjoining carriage quicker than a dose of salts!

Meanwhile, at the match, supporters, old and young alike, displayed all the symptoms of a severe bout of Cup Fever. Old men jumped up and down like mad things, and mature women cried, while their young children gaped in astonishment at the uninhibited display of terpsichorean talent. What a fever! What a night!

Move over Merseysiders, the Wigan Athletic Roadshow is on its way!

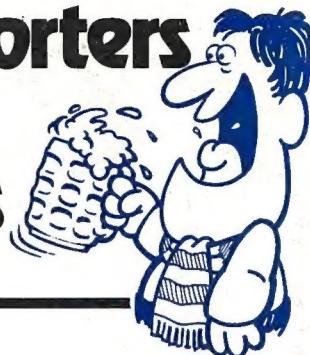
A VERY good afternoon and welcome back to Springfield Park to all supporters and members of our supporters' club, and a warm welcome to supporters of A.F.C. Bournemouth who have travelled to Wigan today.

Normally this section of our programme is devoted entirely to events at the club, but I know you will join with me in offering Ian McNeill and the team our sincere congratulations on their fantastic performance last weekend — first at Portsmouth and two days later their tremendous victory at Stamford Bridge; and now, with the marvellous spirit in the dressing room, season 1979/80 must surely prove to be the most momentous in the "Latics" history.

Back in the club, we have indirectly felt the effect of the postponement of both our games, and also Rochdale's fixtures, as, at the time of writing, we haven't been able to arrange our date for the Sportsman's Quiz — second leg, but again I assure you that this is a contest that is well worth you making a note of and coming along as soon as the date is known.

Our bowls section is awaiting the league meeting on the 24th January, in the hope that their proposed membership will be

Supporters Club News



approved.

We have some first class artists on stage in January:—

Saturday 19th

— Brian Kane

Sunday, 20th

— Pat Grange

Saturday, 26th

— Angela Lewis

Sunday, 27th

— Mike Eaton

and on the first Saturday night in February — the 2nd — the always popular — Trevor Wallace.

Hope to see you soon.

Sincerely,
Peter Woods



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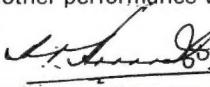
8/12 CROMPTON STREET
WIGAN
Tel. 41841/2

A last word from the chairman . . .

IT GIVES me great pleasure to welcome the directors, management, staff and supporters of A.F.C. Bournemouth to Springfield Park for what promises to be an entertaining game of football between two of the most enterprising clubs in the Fourth Division. The three games played between the two clubs, since we joined the Football League, have all been closely contested with one win to each club last season by the odd goal, and with our own side narrowly gaining the verdict at Bournemouth at the beginning of this season. Well organised and ably managed, it can only be a little while before our Southern friends work their way back into Division Three. Because of adverse weather conditions on New Year's Day, you were not able to read my comments about the F.A. Cup clashes with Northwich Victoria and Chelsea, but even I, with all my time in football, did not anticipate such a period of frustration, dramatic twists of fortune and the final glorious act of execution when we gained the day at Stamford Bridge. I can quite honestly state that last weekend's draw at Portsmouth, followed by the giant-killing performance at Chelsea, ranks as highly with me, and, I am sure, all our fans, as our election to the Football League. Whatever else may happen in the future, no one can ever take away the deep personal satisfaction gained from my time as Chairman of the Wigan Athletic Football Club and the achievements of our club over the past three seasons. May I take the opportunity to again thank our fans for their wonderful support and also heap further praise on Mr. McNeill and his playing and training staff. Our time together in Portsmouth and London last weekend was the opportunity to strengthen the team spirit and comradeship which exists within the club. The team's behaviour and general attitude made it a real privilege to enjoy their company and to share in their moments of triumph.

On then to Goodison Park and the mighty Everton Football Club! Our team is already assured of fantastic support and I know they will reward us by going all the way to the final whistle. Let your voices be heard above the Merseyside Sound, be proud to be identified with Wigan and its magnificent team, have faith and hope, and, who knows, we may witness yet another performance which will go down in cup-fighting history.

Sincerely,



A. O. Horrocks (Chairman)



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Teams

Wigan Athletic Royal Blue & White Stripes

John Brown	1	Kenny Allen
Dave Fretwell	2	Ian Cunningham
Joe Hinnigan	3	Phil Ferns
Tommy Gore	4	John Impey
Colin Methven	5	Neil Townsend
Neil Davids	6	Phil Holder
Frank Corrigan	7	Mark Elliott
Jeff Wright	8	Ted MacDougall
Peter Houghton	9	Mick Butler
Derek Brownbill	10	John Evanson
George Urquhart	11	Keith Miller
Tony Quinn	12	

Bournemouth Red & White

Officials

Referee:
Mr. Terry L. Morris
(Leeds)

Started refereeing in 1957 in Rotherham then continued via local leagues to the Northern Premier League and then the Football League list. Linesman for European Cup Winners Cup in 1976, refereed the Northern League Champions -v- Southern League Champions in 1976, and the Anglo-Italian competition in 1977. The Queen's Jubilee game between Leeds United and Ajax in 1977, the West Riding County Cup Final, Linesman Semi-Final F.A. Cup and Referee F.A. Vase Final in 1978. Refereed West Riding Senior Cup Final in 1979.

Linesmen:
Red Flag
Mr. A. A. Booth
(Droylesden)
Yellow Flag
Mr. D. M. Charnley
(Failsworth)

Here next...

Saturday, 9th February, 1980. Kick-off 3.00 p.m.
WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- HEREFORD UNITED
Football League Division Four